

MIAMI COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION
25 NORTH BROADWAY
PERU, IN 46970

The Miami County Plan Commission met in regular session on January 9, 2019 in the G A R Room.

Jason Bowman, President
Brad Fruth, Vice-President, Absent
Lynette Smith, Secretary
Ralph Duckwall
Jon Reibly
Gregg Wilkinson
Richard Hendricks, Absent
Corey Roser, Absent
Larry West

Miami County Attorney, Stephen Downs
Miami County Inspector, Bill Gornto was present

President, Jason Bowman brought the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll call.

MC Inspector, Bill Gornto opened the floor for nominations for Chair Persons.

Lynette Smith nominated Jon Reibly for President. Jon Reibly said he would have to decline at this time.

Larry West said that he had talked to Brad Fruth, and since he was working out of county, that he would take Vice-President, but did not want to be the Chair Person.

Jon Reibly said that he would be missing next month, as he is going to Florida to have surgery. And he will be absent for a while.

Ralph Duckwall nominated Larry West. Bill Gornto asked if there was any more nominations. Mr. Gornto then asked if there was a motion to close nominations. Ralph Duckwall made a motion to close nominations. Jon Reibly 2nd.

All Ayes.

Larry West asked for the reading of the previous minutes.

Larry West opened nominations for Vice-President. Jon Reibly nominated Brad Fruth. Jason Bowman 2nd. Ralph Duckwall motioned to close nominations. Jon Reibly 2nd.

All Ayes.

Jon Reibly nominated Lynette Smith for Secretary. 2nd by Jason Bowman. Ralph Duckwall motioned for nominations to be closed. 2nd by Jon Reibly.

All Ayes.

Larry West asked for the reading the previous minutes. Jason Bowman asked the reading of the minutes be suspended, and accept as written. Jon Reibly 2nd.

All ayes.

Larry West brought up the recommendation for Mr. Stephen Downs to be the attorney for Miami County Plan and BZA. Mr. West said they have interviewed five (5) attorneys. And at this point the Commissioners have recommend Mr. Downs. Mr. West it would be nice to have one attorney to represent all the departments. The Health Department has approved Mr. Downs, the Commissions, now the Plan Commission and BZA. Next week the Council will decide also. Mr. Downs fees were very reasonable. And would be \$5,000.00 below what was previously paid.

John Reibly stated that this was discussed in their Committee Meeting. Mr. Reibly asked Lynette Smith if she had the minutes with her. Mrs. Smith said they had discussed investigating Barnes & Thornbird. Larry West said that the other Boards were impressed with them, but their rates were a little high, and did not give an hourly rate. They are also about \$8,000.00 higher, and being out of town.

Jon Reibly asked Mrs. Smith if there was any question that the Committee wanted to ask. Mrs. Smith stated that they did not have the information on Mr. Downs, so he wasn't discussed. She also stated that she liked the idea of Bryce Runkle because of him being local, but she don't have all the information on all of the lawyer interviewed. Mrs. Smith stated that on the information sheet given at the Plan Commission meeting on the lawyer's salaries, that Mr. Runkle had just an hourly rate. Ralph Duckwall stated that what the cost would be if there were many court issues. Jason Bowman stated that in the last few years there was only one that he was aware of, and it is pending. Pat Roberts was dealing with that, and no one knew at this time what was going on with it. Mr. West said that with Mr. Downs, if court was necessary he would take it off the retainer fees, and then charge the hourly rate after the retainer was depleted. Mr. Duckwall stated that it would help Miami County if everyone hired the same lawyer, otherwise it could cost Miami County more money.

Ralph Duckwall made a motion to appoint Stephen Downs as Miami County Plan Commission's Legal Counsel. Jason Bowman 2nd. Larry West asked if there was any more questions.

All ayes.

Lynette Smith nominated Jason Bowman to stay on the Plan Commission. 2nd by Jon Reibly.

All ayes.

Larry West asked for updates on the Building/Zoning Position. Lynette Smith stated that applications are being taken until January 11. The Committee consist of Brad Fruth, Jon Reibly, and Lynette Smith. The Committee will narrow it down to 3 qualified people. The Committee would then have an executive meeting with the Commissioners. Larry West asked Mrs. Smith if there was anything else. Mrs. Smith stated they want to make sure there was enough qualified applicants to choose from. Jason Bowman stated that he thought there was 50 to 60 applicants.

Larry West wanted to thank Mary Kay McKinney and Bill Gornto for keeping the office running. Frank Cade also. Mr. West stated that they had many compliments on how the office has been running.

Mary Kay McKinney presented everyone with an End of the Year Folder. Ms. McKinney went through what the Building/Planning Office was in the process of doing, goals for this year, and spreadsheets on permits, and contractors (dollars and totals). Jason Bowman suggested that Ms. McKinney work with Cass County on software program for our computer system. Larry West said that is so, but make sure that they software program is what Building/Planning needs. Ralph Duckwall asked that there by monthly reports. Ms. McKinney assured him that will happened.

Bill Gornto, MC Inspector, gave the Plan Commission a copy of the State Statues.

Ralph Duckwall asked if the date of the week to meet needs to be established. Jason Bowman stated that it has always been the same. Mr. Duckwall said that he is not saying to change the date that the Commissioners establish each year the date. Bill Gornto, stated that it was to be done in December, and since it wasn't done, you cannot change the date. Jason Bowman stated that if it was not done, it stays the same for the next year. Jon Reibly said that it was easier to have it the same night as the BZA. Ralph Duckwall asked if maybe move the time earlier to 7 o'clock. The time was not convient for a few Plan Commissioners, was discussed maybe put the BZA before Plan Commission. Which didn't solve the issues. The time was left at 7:30 p.m. for the meetings.

Larry West said one other thing he would like to mention is Mary Kay McKinney can only work 22 hours a week per her Insurance, even though she is authorized to work 28 hours. Ms. McKinney stated that if she worked more and lost her insurance, she could not get it back for a year. Jon Reibly asked if a temp person should be considered on a monthly basis. Mr. Reibly also said that Ms. McKinney could not get work done, if she was training the temp. Mr. West said that the County is not in a position to make a year commitment. Ralph Duckwall said, then we need to get the Administers position filled in a timely manner. Jon Reibly said he will get the applications from Mary Brown, MC Auditor, Tuesday, January 15, and the Committee will start on them.

Larry West said for the audience, there is a sign in sheet, for the future, if you want to speak, please sign the sheet.

Larry West asked if there was anyone who had anything to say.

Scott Wolfe, spoke, about a Variance that was issued. Mr. West said that needs to come up in the BZA meeting.

Larry West asked if there was anyone else that would like to speak.

Jason Bowman made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Jon Reibly. 8:23 p.m.

All ayes.



Representative of Miami County Plan Commission

LARRY WEST

Printed Name

CHAIRMAN

Title

2/13/19

Date